

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 – 8 (cancelled)

9. (new) A method for executing a washing program in a dishwasher, the method comprising:

within a dishwasher having a spray system for spraying a liquid onto crockery that has been disposed in the dishwasher, providing a washing liquid to be eventually sprayed by the spray system, as a washing program is executed, onto crockery in the dishwasher;

heating the washing liquid to a predetermined temperature in a flow section that is separate from the spray system to an extent such that the washing liquid does not substantially impinge on crockery in the dishwasher as it is being heated in the flow section, whereupon the washing liquid is heated without substantially wetting crockery in the dishwasher; and

after the washing liquid has been heated to the predetermined temperature, delivering the washing liquid into contact with crockery in the dishwasher, whereupon crockery in the dishwasher that essentially has not been heated is heated by the washing liquid.

10. (new) The method according to claim 9, wherein the step of heating the washing liquid to a predetermined temperature in a flow section includes heating the washing liquid in flow section embodied separate from the spraying system as a valve circuit controllable by a program control system as a preferably substantially closed circuit and circulating the washing liquid in the valve circuit such that the washing liquid does not

substantially impinge on crockery in the dishwasher as it is being heated in the valve circuit.

11. (new) The method according to claim 9, wherein the step of heating the washing liquid to a predetermined temperature in a flow section includes ceasing the heating of the washing liquid at the latest when crockery in the dishwasher has reached the predetermined temperature for the washing liquid.

12. (new) The method according to claim 9, wherein the step of heating the washing liquid to a predetermined temperature in a flow section includes circulating the washing liquid by means of a circulating pump so that the heat distribution inside the washing liquid is substantially homogeneous.

13. (new) The method according to claim 9, wherein the step of heating the washing liquid to a predetermined temperature in a flow section includes heating the washing liquid to a specific temperature in a preheating container.

14. (new) A dishwasher comprising:

means for retaining crockery that it is to be washed;

a spray system for spraying a liquid onto crockery that has been disposed in the dishwasher, the spray system being operable to spray a washing liquid, as a washing program is executed, onto crockery in the dishwasher; and

means for heating the washing liquid to a predetermined temperature, the means for heating the washing liquid to a predetermined temperature being separate from the spray system to an extent such that the washing liquid does not substantially impinge on crockery in the dishwasher as it is being heated by the means for heating the washing

liquid to a predetermined temperature, whereupon the washing liquid is heated without substantially wetting crockery in the dishwasher; and the spray system being operable to spray the washing liquid onto crockery in the dishwasher after the washing liquid has been heated to the predetermined temperature, whereupon crockery in the dishwasher that essentially has not been heated is heated by the washing liquid.

15. (new) The dishwasher according to claim 14, wherein the means for heating the washing liquid to a predetermined temperature is a container provided with a heating device.

16. (new) The dishwasher according to claim 14, and further comprising means for manually switching the operation of the means for heating the washing liquid to a predetermined temperature between an on condition in which the means for heating the washing liquid to a predetermined temperature is operable to heat the washing liquid and an off condition in which the means for heating the washing liquid to a predetermined temperature does not heat the washing liquid.